



*we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses*

*Hebrews 12:1*

*Community Presbyterian Church*

*Redlands, California*

*1913-2003*

*Celebrating*  
The Fourteenth Sunday After  
*Pentecost*  
and  
*90 Years of*  
*Service and Worship*

September 14, 2003

*GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE*

**A TIME FOR SHARING ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

(Guests should be introduced at this time.)

**FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION:** (During the prelude.)

Gavino Trevino, while in his early 20's, donated a portion of his home property on the northeast corner of Webster and Union for the building of the first place of worship, "La Capillita" (The Little Chapel). What has this gift meant in your life?

**PIANO PRELUDE:**

Mary Louise Gonzales

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE:**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:** (Psalm 118:24)

Lea: This is the day the LORD has made;

Peo: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

◆Please stand on the first bar of the last line, if you are able.

◆HYMN OF CELEBRATION: Great is Thy Faithfulness Hymnal-276  
Hymnody #18

**GREETINGS:**

Rev. Jeff Silliman, Executive Presbytery of Riverside Presbytery

Mr. Robert Gonzales

Letters of Greeting

**THE CHILDREN'S TIME**

**PIANO INTERLUDE:** <As the children are dismissed.>

(Parents may take or send their infants and toddlers to the nursery at this time.)

**RESPONSIVE READING:** Psalm 78:1-7

Lea: O my people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth.

Peo: I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter hidden things, things from of old--

Lea: what we have heard and known, what our fathers have told us.

Peo: We will not hide them from their children; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders he has done.

Lea: He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our forefathers to teach their children, so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children.

Peo: Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands.

**REFLECTIONS:** Rev. Jaimie Quinones

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:** Rev. Jaimie Quinones

**THE LORD'S PRAYER:** (unison)

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE:**

Lea: The Peace of the Risen Christ be with you all.

Peo: And also with you.

Lea: Let us share the Peace of Christ.

## **SPECIAL MUSIC:**

**Anthem:** "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Hymnal-151

Combined Choirs

Hymnody #31

(Congregation please join in singing the 3rd verse)

**Anthem:** Inland Empire Fellowship Choir

## ***PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD***

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:** (unison)

Truly, we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, loving God. We remember all those who have worshiped and served in this place, leaving a record of their faith. May we, too, be found faithful as we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

### **THE EPISTLE LESSON:** Hebrews 11:1, 39, 12:1-3 (Text below)

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised. Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

### **THE GOSPEL LESSON:** John 15:1-5 (Text below)

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.



Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

**HYMN OF REFLECTION:** The Church's One Foundation Hymnal-442

(Remain seated) (vv.1,2, 4) Hymnody #45

**SERMON:** *Running the Race* Pastor Sylvia Karcher

and Assoc. Lay Pastor Jan Opdyke

**RESPONSE TO THE SERMON:** Litany for the Church

Lea: Almighty God, you built your church on the rock of human faith and trust; we praise you for Jesus Christ, the foundation and cornerstone of all we believe.

Peo: **We praise you, God.**

Lea: Save us from living in the past, and from resting on the work of others. Renew our vision, that we may know our duty in this place and this world today.

Peo: **O Lord, please hear us.**

Lea: Keep us from pride that excludes others from the shelter of your love, and let us not hold back what we have or what we are when there is so much need.

Peo: **O Lord, please hear us.**

Lea: Defend us from the ignorance that nourishes injustice and from indifference that causes hearts to break; that we may demonstrate your love and live beyond caste or color as Christ's men and women.

Peo: **O Lord, please hear us.**

Lea: O God, who gave us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise; send your Spirit among us; that, confronted by your truth, we may be free to worship you as we should; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## *OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD*

**CALL FOR THE OFFERING:** (Leader)

Friends, freely we have received; let us freely give.

**OFFERTORY:**

◆**DOXOLOGY:** (sung response)

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!

Praise God all creatures here, below!

Praise God above you heavenly host,

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION:** (unison - please remain standing)

Gracious God, thank You for showing us a vision of the world as You meant it to be. As we bring our offerings we ask You to use us, sending us out into the world as messengers of Your Love, and messengers of peace and hope. Amen.

**HYMN OF DEDICATION:** For All the Saints Hymnal-526/Hymnody #148

## *GO FORTH IN SERVICE*

**BENEDICTION:** Rev. Sylvia Karcher

**SUNG RESPONSE:** God Be with You till We Meet Again

God be with you till we meet again;

By his counsels guide, uphold you,

With his sheep securely fold you;

God be with you till we meet again.

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**CANDLELIGHT VIGIL FOR PEACE, JUSTICE, AND RECONCILIATION:** Every Sunday, 7:30-8:30 P.M. Corner Orange St. and Redlands Blvd. Sponsored by the Peace and Human Rights Coalition of the Inland Counties on the web at [www.inlandpeace.org](http://www.inlandpeace.org).

**RECYCLE YOUR BULLETIN:** Please return your bulletins to the back of the Sanctuary following the service for recycling.

## **A SPECIAL W**

soon, and consider making it your home for worship and service. Please join us each Sunday (September-June) at 9:00 for our Adult Study Program followed by worship at 10:00. Child care is available during worship. If you are a new guest, please help us keep in touch. Please print your name, address, and phone number in the guest book at the back of the Sanctuary. Thanks.

**We are your neighbors.**

## **Community Presbyterian Church**

320 W. Union Ave., Redlands, CA 92374

Rev. Sylvia Karcher: Pastor

Jan Opdke: Commissioned Lay Associate Pastor

**Pastor's Schedule: Pastor Sylvia will be in Redlands this week**

**Monday and Wednesday**

Church phone number: 909-792-2618

Church Website: <http://redlandscommunity.org/>

**There is a place for you at Community.**

**WORSHIP NEXT WEEK: The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Texts: Proverbs 31:10-31; James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37

Sermon: Rev. Sylvia Karcher

Please join us at Sylvan Park for a picnic right after the service.

The morning Bible Study will meet Wednesday at 10:30 am at the church.

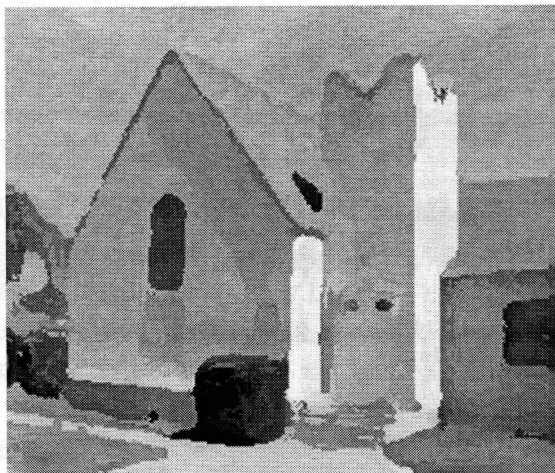
The evening Bible Study will meet Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Osburn's home.

Session will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday at the church.

"Making Peace", our new adult study, will begin next Sunday at 9 am. Christa McNerney of the Christian Counseling Center will lead us as we explore "Seeking Inner Peace." We will have sessions on Peace in the Family and Peace in the Community on following Sundays.

# Celebrating

The Fourteenth Sunday After



## *Iglesia Presbiteriana Mexicana de Redlands*

*On March 18, 1913 the Mexican Presbyterian Church of Redlands was dedicated with the Rev. Cipriano Frausto in the pulpit. There were 34 charter members. Of those, 22 were from the original Mexican families.*

*praise be to God*